

## ABSTRACT

An image pickup system including a digital camera and a personal computer (PC) connected to each other. The camera includes a camera control unit for controlling picture-taking based on photographing conditions set either by the camera or the PC, and a communication unit for communicating with the PC. The PC includes a display for displaying the photographing condition and an image, a mouse and the like capable of setting the photographing condition through the operation on a screen, a communication unit for communicating with the camera, a capture-mode start/termination unit for selecting between a first photographing mode in which the camera serves as a master and a second photographing mode in which the PC serves as the master, and a control unit for setting the second photographing mode just after the start of control of the PC for reading photographing information of the camera, and after that, setting either the first photographing mode or the second photographing mode in accordance with the selection.